

**Amendments to the Claims:**

The following listing of claims replaces all other versions of claims previously presented.

**Listing of Claims:**

1 (Currently Amended): A secondary battery comprising: a positive electrode; a negative electrode; a porous electron-insulating layer adhered to a surface of at least one selected from the group consisting of said positive electrode and said negative electrode; and an electrolyte,

wherein said porous electron-insulating layer comprises a particulate filler and a resin binder, and said particulate filler substantially comprises ~~[[an]] indefinite-shape ~~partiele~~ particles~~ comprising a plurality of primary particles that are joined to one another which have the shape of dendrites, grape clusters, or coral.

2 (Currently Amended): The secondary battery in accordance with claim 1, wherein a neck is formed between at least a pair of said primary particles that are joined to one another and that form said indefinite-shape ~~partiele~~ particles.

3 (Currently Amended): The secondary battery in accordance with claim 1, wherein said indefinite-shape ~~partiele~~ is particles are formed by partially melting said plurality of primary particles for bonding.

4 (Currently Amended): The secondary battery in accordance with claim 1, wherein said indefinite-shape ~~partiele~~ has particles have a mean particle size that is twice or more than twice the mean particle size of said primary particles and not more than 10  $\mu\text{m}$ .

5 (Currently Amended): The secondary battery in accordance with claim 1, wherein said indefinite-shape ~~partiele~~ comprises particles comprise a metal oxide.

6 (Currently Amended): The secondary battery in accordance with claim 5, wherein said particulate filler further comprises ~~[[a]] resin fine ~~partiele~~ particles~~.

7 (Currently Amended): The secondary battery in accordance with claim 1, wherein said resin binder comprises a polyacrylic acid derivative.

8 (Original): The secondary battery in accordance with claim 1, wherein said positive electrode comprises a composite lithium oxide, said negative electrode comprises a material capable of charging and discharging lithium, and said electrolyte comprises a non-aqueous solvent and a lithium salt dissolved in the non-aqueous solvent.

9 (Original): The secondary battery in accordance with claim 1, further comprising a separator sheet that is interposed between said positive electrode and said negative electrode, said separator sheet being independent of both said positive electrode and said negative electrode.

10 (New): A secondary battery comprising: a positive electrode; a negative electrode; a porous electron-insulating layer adhered to a surface of at least one selected from the group consisting of said positive electrode and said negative electrode; and an electrolyte,

wherein said porous electron-insulating layer comprises a particulate filler and a resin binder, and said particulate filler substantially comprises indefinite-shape particles, wherein a neck is formed between at least a pair of single crystalline particles that are joined to one another and that form said indefinite-shape particles.

11 (New): The secondary battery in accordance with claim 10, wherein said indefinite-shape particles are formed by partially melting said plurality of primary particles for bonding.

12 (New): The secondary battery in accordance with claim 10, wherein said indefinite-shape particles have a mean particle size that is twice or more than twice the mean particle size of said primary particles and not more than 10  $\mu\text{m}$ .

13 (New): The secondary battery in accordance with claim 10, wherein said indefinite-shape particles comprise a metal oxide.

14 (New): The secondary battery in accordance with claim 13, wherein said particulate filler further comprises resin fine particles.

15 (New): The secondary battery in accordance with claim 1, wherein said resin binder comprises a polyacrylic acid.

16 (New): A secondary battery comprising: a positive electrode; a negative electrode; a porous electron-insulating layer adhered to a surface of at least one selected from the group consisting of said positive electrode and said negative electrode; and an electrolyte,

wherein said porous electron-insulating layer comprises a particulate filler and a resin binder, and said particulate filler substantially comprises indefinite-shape particles, wherein said indefinite-shape particles are polycrystalline particles comprising a plurality of single crystalline particles that are diffusion bonded.

17 (New): The secondary battery in accordance with claim 16, wherein said indefinite-shape particles have a mean particle size that is twice or more than twice the mean particle size of said primary particles and not more than 10  $\mu\text{m}$ .

18 (New): The secondary battery in accordance with claim 16, wherein said indefinite-shape particles comprise a metal oxide.

19 (New): The secondary battery in accordance with claim 18, wherein said particulate filler further comprises resin fine particles.

20 (New): The secondary battery in accordance with claim 16, wherein said resin binder comprises a polyacrylic acid.